



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**SEPTEMBER 14, 2004**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SPRINGFIELD FELON SENTENCED TO 17 YEARS FOR ILLEGAL FIREARM POSSESSION**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., felon was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm.

**Kerry Brooks**, 40, of Springfield, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to 17 years and six months in federal prison without parole.

On June 23, 2004, **Brooks** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. By pleading guilty, **Brooks** admitted that he was in possession of a Smith and Wesson .38-caliber revolver on Nov. 5, 2002. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Brooks** has two previous criminal felony convictions for robbery and previous criminal felony convictions sale of a controlled substance and sale of a controlled substance near a school.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Hendrickson. It was investigated by the Springfield, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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